

## Discover Your Authority

### I. What is the difference between Power & Authority?

- a. Power is backed by yourself.
- b. Authority is backed by someone else.
- c. Authority trumps power.

“Where do you come from?” he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer.<sup>10</sup> “Do you refuse to speak to me?” Pilate said. “Don’t you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?”

<sup>11</sup> Jesus answered, “You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above.

#### (John 19:9-11 NIV)

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. <sup>51</sup> With that, one of Jesus’ companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. <sup>52</sup> “Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. <sup>53</sup> Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?

#### (Matthew 26:50-53 NIV)

- d. Jesus has power and authority.

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. (Matthew 28:18 NIV)

### II. Where do we fit in all of this?

- a. Jesus has given us power and authority to act on his behalf.

<sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” (Matthew 16:19 NIV)

- b. Where there is power and authority given, there is always a command.

*“It is cosmic treason for the church to possess the keys of the Kingdom and not to utilize them to set the captives free”. -Rob Riemer*

<sup>12</sup> But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup> and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. **(Hebrews 10:12-13 NIV)**

c. We will be measured by our power not our words.

<sup>19</sup> But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I will find out not the talk of these arrogant people but their power. <sup>20</sup> For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power. **(1 Cor. 4:19-20 ESV)**

### III. How do I apply this?

a. We must redefine normal.

<sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. **(Ephesians 6:12 NIV)**

*One of the artifices of Satan is, to induce men to believe that he does not exist: another, perhaps equally fatal, is to make them fancy that he is obliged to stand quietly by, and not to meddle with them, if they get into true silence. -Charles Baudelaire (French poet)*

b. We must resist going into panic mode.

<sup>7</sup> for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. **(2 Tim. 1:7 ESV)**

c. We must know His will.

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. **(John 15:5 NIV)**

d. We must act according to His will

But don't just listen to God's word. Do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. **(James 1:22 NLT)**

Book Recommendations

The Bold Christian ~ Chuck Davis

Soul Care ~ Dr. Rob Reimer